The Housing Element also contains objectives for meeting housing rehabilitation loans, down payment assistance, and loans for first-time homeowners and emergency grants.

Table 4. Other Housing Objectives by Income Level

TYPE OF OBJECTIVE	VERY LOW INCOME	LOW INCOME	MODERATE INCOME	TOTAL
Single Family Rehab Program	8**	50	50	108
Mortgage Assistance Loans	11	41	1	53
Mobile Home Grants**	19	5		24
Emergency Grants*	29			29
TOTAL:	67	96	52	214

* This program is only for very low-income households
** These units contain affordability restrictions

The **Parks, Recreation and Trails Element** of the General Plan guides future development of parks, recreational facilities, multi-use trails, bikeways and open space areas for city residents. In FY2003-04, construction of two community parks was begun, as described below. Funding for these parks include a citywide assessment approved by Palmdale voters, State Prop 40 funds, park development and drainage impact fees and State grant money. The two parks are scheduled for completion in 2005.

> ➤ Eastside Aquatics Park. This 33-acre site located on the City's east side will contain a swimming pool, recreation building, open play fields, aquatic center with lazy river, water slides and zero entry pool.

> ➤ Marie Kerr Park Expansion. This 40-acre site will contain a swimming pool, four men's and four women's ball fields, recreation building and amphitheatre.

According to the standards established in the Parks, Recreation and Trails Element of three acres of active parkland per thousand of population, the City currently needs 399 acres of parkland. After construction of the two above-mentioned park sites, the City's parkland will total 266 acres, still 133 acres short of meeting this goal. The City owns 89 acres of undeveloped community and neighborhood parkland that will someday be developed. In addition, large-scale planned communities have been required to develop park sites as part of their development plans. It should be noted that as the City's population increases, so will the need for active park acreage.

<u>Amendment of the Parks, Recreation & Trails Element.</u> In addition, an amendment was adopted for the Parks, Recreation and Trails Element in order to keep the information current and reflect current conditions. Those changes included the following:

(a)   To delete references to the park fee voucher program that is no longer in effect;

(b)   To combine the bikeway and multi-use trails plans into one new color exhibit;

(c)   To combine five exhibits depicting city park sites, park planning areas, and other public and private recreational facilities onto one new color exhibit;

(d)   To designate new bikeway and trail linkages along Amargosa Creek, Columbia Way/Avenue M, and around the A.V. Mall on Avenue O-8;

(e)   To describe existing developed and planned park sites and programs;

(f)   To update information on private recreational facilities within the community; and

(g)   To update the description of how the City is doing in meeting its goals for providing parkland and open space.

Policies contained in the **Community Design Element** shape the City's overall form and appearance. By continually striving to meet the policies contained in the Element, improvements can be seen throughout the City in its functional and aesthetic quality. Establishing and maintaining high development standards is a significant way in which the Community Design Element can be implemented.

This year, the City completed the first of a planned series of façade improvements for older commercial business areas. Improvements included a new and cohesive design for businesses along Palmdale Boulevard at 3rd Street East, as well as new signage and building lights. A new parking lot with lighting and a trash enclosure were constructed to provide much needed parking and security, resulting in a significant improvement to this business area. Future phases for this program have been identified and will be implemented as funding becomes available.